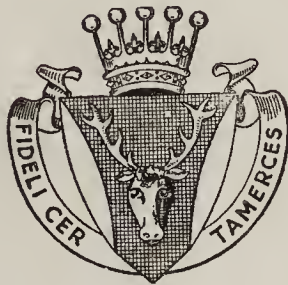


PLYMPTON ST. MARY  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1957

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

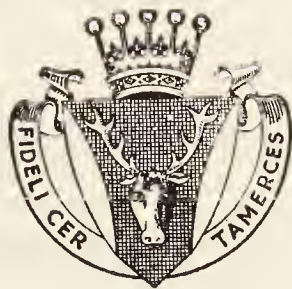
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



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PLYMPTON ST. MARY  
*RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL*



# ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1957

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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*Committees of the Council concerned with matters of Public Health  
are as follows :—*

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WORKS COMMITTEE

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE

WATER COMMITTEE

## **PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Telephone No. : Plympton 2244

*Medical Officer of Health :*

DR. R. B. WALKER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

*Deputy Medical Officer of Health :*

DR. S. NOY SCOTT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

*Chief Public Health Inspector ;*

MR. R. T. FEDRICK, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Also Inspector of Meat and other Foods, and Petroleum Inspector)

*Public Health Inspectors ;*

MR. R. OSBORNE

(Also Inspector of Meat and other Foods)

MR. E. R. SHEPHERD, M.A.P.H.I.

(Also Inspector of Meat and other Foods)

*Clerk :*

MISS G. H. PROWSE



**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS**  
**of the**  
**PLYMPTON ST. MARY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

---

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1957.

A summary of the General Provision of Health Services for the Area has been omitted from this report. There has recently been published by the County *The Devon County Health Handbook*. This contains details of the health and allied social services in the County and gives in detail all the facilities in the District.

There were two cases of poliomyelitis notified in the district. Inoculations against this disease have been continued. As inoculation seems to be about the only method of any value of controlling the disease it is gratifying to find a good response.

Work connected with Food Hygiene, Slum Clearance and Petroleum Spirit has increased considerably during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

R. B. WALKER,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

*July, 1958.*

---

**GENERAL STATISTICS**

Area—66,600 acres, of which 174 are inland water.

Population—1951 Census	...	...	...	...	...	31,820
Population estimated to the middle of 1957	...	...	...	...	...	34,940
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£395,974
Amount produced by a 1d. Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£1,664. 5s. 2d.

## VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1957

## Live Births

		Total	M	F	
Legitimate	...	518	264	254	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident popu- lation, 15.31.
Illegitimate	...	17	5	12	
		—	—	—	
		535	269	266	

**Still Births** ... 10 4 6 Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 18.34.

**Deaths** ... 405 198 207 Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 11.59.

		Total	M	F	
Deaths from					Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 1.83.
Puerperal					
Causes		1	—	1	

## Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	13.08
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	11.58
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	58.82

## Death Rate of Infants under 4 weeks of age:

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	9.34
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	7.72
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	58.82

## CAUSES OF DEATH

			Males	Females	1957	1956
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	—	—	—	7
2. Tuberculosis, other	...	...	1	—	1	—
3. Syphilitic disease	...	...	—	—	—	1
4. Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	—	1
6. Meningococcal infections	...	...	—	—	—	1
7. Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—	—	—

CAUSES OF DEATH—*continued*

					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	1957	1956
8.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	1	1	2
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...			7	13	20	10
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	...	...	...	13	4	17	10
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...			—	15	15	10
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...			—	5	5	6
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	17	17	34	37
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...		—	1	1	2
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	1	2	7
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system				29	30	59	63
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...			37	17	54	69
19.	Hypertension with heart disease				4	7	11	14
20.	Other heart disease	...	...		20	37	57	55
21.	Other circulatory disease	...			14	13	27	26
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	2	—	2	—
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	8	11	19	17
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	5	1	6	9
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	2	1	3	2
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum				3	1	4	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea				1	—	1	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...			—	1	1	7
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...			5	—	5	1
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion...				—	1	1	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...			3	—	3	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	18	24	42	38
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...		1	—	1	1
34.	All other accidents	...	...		4	3	7	8
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	3	3	6	7
36.	Homicide and operations of war				—	—	—	—
					198	207	405	413



**Deaths over 65**

There were 318, viz.: 52 between 65 and 70

58	„	70	„	75
79	„	75	„	80
68	„	80	„	85
33	„	85	„	90
21	„	90	„	95
6	„	95	„	100
1 over 100				

---

**PREVALENCE AND CONTROL  
OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE**

The total number of notifications was 419, as compared with 404 during the previous year.

**Scarlet Fever**

10 cases were notified as compared with 16 during the previous year. Most of the cases occurred in the parish of Plympton St. Mary (7). The disease was of a very mild character.

**Diphtheria**

No cases of diphtheria were notified during the year.

**Acute Poliomyelitis**

2 cases of Poliomyelitis (one paralytic; one non-paralytic) were notified and the diagnosis confirmed in the paralytic case.

**Disinfection**

Disinfection of premises is carried out by the Council's employees under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors.

---

**Tuberculosis** (*see pages 10 and 11*)

With regard to the extent of notification before death, the one case was not notified in this district previous to death.

PAROCHIAL DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE FOR YEAR 1957.

DISEASE.	Bickleigh	Brixton	Cornwood	Ermington	Harford	Holbeton	Ivybridge	Newton and Noss	Plympton St. Mary	Plympton St. Maurice	Plymstock	Shaugh Prior	Wembury	Yealinton	Totals
SCARLET FEVER ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	1	1	-	-	10
ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
PNEUMONIA ...	-	-	1	1	-	-	3	5	10	2	3	-	-	2	27
ERYSIPELAS ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	3	1	-	1	-	1	10
WHOOPING COUGH ...	-	1	1	4	-	-	4	3	9	1	3	1	2	-	29
MEASLES ...	-	-	4	-	2	9	5	11	74	1	138	41	31	22	338
PUERPERAL PYREXIA ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2
DYSENTERY ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
TOTALS ...	-	1	7	5	2	9	13	22	105	5	147	44	33	26	419

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) AND TOTAL DEATHS  
DURING THE YEAR 1957.

	AGE PERIODS (NOTIFICATIONS)														Removed to Hospital	Naval and Military Cases	AGE PERIODS (DEATHS)												65 & over	Total
	Under one year	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Total	1			2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 & over				
		2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	2					3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45						
SCARLET FEVER ..	-	-	2	-	1	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
PNEUMONIA ..	-	-	1	-	-	2	2	-	-	3	2	14	3	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
PUERPERAL PYREXIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
ERYSIPELAS ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	3	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
WHOOPING COUGH ..	1	1	6	3	3	11	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
MEASLES ..	6	25	43	33	44	178	9	-	-	-	-	-	338	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
DYSENTERY ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
TOTALS ..	7	26	52	36	48	198	15	2	5	2	22	6	419	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					

**TUBERCULOSIS.**  
**NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1957.**

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES						DEATHS						Total No. of Deaths		
	PULMONARY.			Non-PULMONARY.			PULMONARY.			Non-PULMONARY.				Total No. of Cases	
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total			
Under 1 Year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10—15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20—25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25—35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35—45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45—55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55—65	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...



With regard to Tuberculosis affecting employees in the milk trade, no case had to be dealt with, nor had any action to be taken with regard to the compulsory removal to Hospital under Section 172, Public Health Act, 1936.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

No cases were dealt with during the year.

### WATER SAMPLING

During the year, 168 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination.

The following table shows the results of the samples taken:

<i>Supply</i>	<i>No. of samples taken</i>	<i>Presumptive Coliform Count per 100 ml.</i>			
		<i>Class 1 (less than 1)</i>	<i>Class 2 (1-2)</i>	<i>Class 3 (3-10)</i>	<i>Class 4 (Greater than 10)</i>
HARFORD ...	19	12	2	3	2
ERME HEAD ...	37	37	—	—	—
YEALM HEAD ...	53	53	—	—	—
OTHER PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SUPPLIES ...	59	18	1	5	35
TOTALS ...	168	120	3	8	37

I am indebted to the Engineer and Surveyor for the following information:

### WATER SUPPLY

Main supplies are obtained from the River Yealm, River Erme and Butter Brook, all of which are chlorinated and treated with lime.

With the extension of the distribution system throughout the district the local supplies to certain hamlets are gradually being abandoned and it is the ultimate aim for the whole of the area

except Bickleigh to be supplied with water from the Reservoirs at Houndall, Watercombe and Harford. Bickleigh is supplied from Plymouth Corporation Main.

It is estimated on December 31st, 1957, that of the houses in the district 95% are supplied by mains, 3% by standpipe and 2% from private sources.

The second stage of the trunk main to Elburton was completed during the year and improved supplies made available to Elburton, Plymstock and Wembury areas.

A scheme has been prepared for main laying from Ivybridge to Noss Mayo via Westlake, Langbrook and Holbeton, which has been approved by the Council and is now awaiting Ministerial sanction.

Approval has been received for the laying of mains to Venton, Mount Pleasant and Dunstone, and the local supplies will then be abandoned. This work will be completed by the summer of 1958.

Adequate water mains have been laid by direct labour on all new estates being developed within the district.

Water mains have also been renewed by direct labour at Torbridge Road and Dean Road, Plympton.

As the growth of Plymstock proceeds some further enlargement of the distribution mains will be required. There are now very adequate supplies available at the reservoirs and the first section of the improved distribution mains, i.e. the replacement of the 3" main in Elburton Road with a 9" main, commenced during 1957 and is now complete. Work has commenced on another section at Goosewell where the 3" main is being replaced with a 9" main.

It is likely that the mains in Springfield Road, Furzehatt Road, Hollands Road and Dunstone Road will need enlargement within the next few years, and it is hoped that this work may be carried out in conjunction with the County Council when road widening schemes are in progress.

---

## WATER CONNECTIONS 1957

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Connections or Renewals during 1957</i>		
	<i>Normal</i>	<i>Metered</i>	<i>Total</i>
Brixton ... ..	6	—	6
Cornwood ... ..	3	3	6
Ermington ... ..	5	—	5
Harford ... ..	—	—	—
Holbeton ... ..	—	—	—
Ivybridge ... ..	8	3	11
Newton and Noss ... ..	10	3	13
Plympton St. Mary and St. Maurice ...	76	8	84
Plymstock ... ..	264	10	274
Shaugh Prior ... ..	3	—	3
Wembury ... ..	10	2	12
Yealmpton ... ..	2	3	5
TOTALS ... ..	387	32	419

### Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Work completed on Plympton Sewage Disposal Works.

Schemes for Yealmpton and Ermington subject to Ministry enquiry and subsequently approved but starting date not allocated.

Work at Lee Moor completed.

Preliminary investigations for Plymstock Main Drainage Scheme continued.

The first stage of Plympton Sewerage Scheme commenced.

### Refuse Disposal

Tipping continued at Linketty Lane.

We have continued to afford a weekly collection of household refuse to the whole district except a few isolated properties.



## PAROCHIAL DISTRIBUTION OF NON- COUNCIL HOUSES DURING 1957

<i>Parish</i>	<i>No. of Plans Approved</i>	<i>Repre- senting No. of Houses</i>	<i>Houses Com- pleted</i>	<i>Layout Plans Approved</i>
Brixton ... ..	4	4	2	—
Cornwood ... ..	1	1	1	—
Ermington ... ..	—	—	3	—
Holbeton ... ..	2	2	2	—
Newton and Noss ... ..	9	10	13	—
Plympton St. Mary ... ..	43	298	160	4
Plympton St. Maurice ... ..	1	1	1	—
Plymstock ... ..	65	92	176	8
Shaugh Prior ... ..	—	—	1	—
Wembury ... ..	12	12	9	—
Yealmpton ... ..	1	1	1	—
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>12</b>

### HOUSING ACT, 1957

**Slum Clearance.** The 8 Clearance Orders, in respect of 56 houses at Pomphlett and Oreston, submitted in October 1956 were confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government without modification. 6 tenants were rehoused by the 31st December, 1957.

5 Clearance Orders, in respect of 38 houses at Ivybridge and Lee Moor, submitted in July 1957 were confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government without modification.

A Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of 8 houses at Plympton St. Maurice was made by the Council, but was not submitted for confirmation as the houses are in process of being acquired by agreement.

**Individual Unfit Houses.** 4 were demolished during the year and another used for a purpose other than human habitation.

I am indebted to the Housing Officer for the following information.

**Pre-War Housing.** The number of houses completed and occupied up to the commencement of the war in 1939 was 367, excluding houses transferred to Plymouth.



**Post-War Housing.** The number of houses completed and occupied during the post-war period up to December 31st, 1957, is as follows:

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Name of Site</i>				<i>Number of Dwellings</i>
Bickleigh	...	Leatside (Roborough)	...	...	8
Brixton	...	Bellows Park	...	...	70
					(including 2 shops)
Cornwood	...	Newtown	...	...	6
Do.	...	Crossways	...	...	16
Ermington	...	Ermeside Cottages	...	...	6
Holbeton	...	Orchard Cottages	...	...	8
Do.	...	1 and 2 Fore Street	...	...	2
Ivybridge	...	New Estate	...	...	108
					(including 2 shops)
Newton and Noss		Hillside Cottages	...	...	6
Do.	...	Butts Park	...	...	20
Plympton St. Mary		New Park (Lee Mill)	...	...	16
Do.	...	George Avenue	...	...	20
Do.	...	Woodford	...	...	114
					(including 1 shop)
Plympton St. Maurice		New Estate	...	...	174
					(including 2 shops)
Plymstock	...	Pomphlett Close	...	...	60
Do.	...	Hooe Estate	...	...	94
					(including 2 shops)
Do.	...	Hooe Manor Estate	...	...	136
Do.	...	Wembury Road (Elburton)	...	...	26
Do.	...	Oreston	...	...	6
Shaugh Prior	...	Trethewey Gardens (Wotter)			30
Wembury	...	Uplands	...	...	6
Yealmpton	...	Yeo Park	...	...	6

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Name of Site</i>					<i>Number of Dwellings</i>
Do. ...	...	Yealm Park	...	...	...	38
<i>Total Dwellings</i>						976

The number of houses under construction at the 31st December, 1957, is as follows:

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Name of Site</i>					<i>Number of Dwellings</i>
Plymstock ...	...	Oreston	...	...	...	36

Further contracts now being executed in course of preparation are as follows:

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Name of Site</i>					<i>Number of Dwellings</i>
Ivybridge ...	...	New Estate	...	...	...	10
Shaugh Prior ...	...	Lee Moor	...	...	...	28
<i>Total Dwellings</i> ...						38

# FACTORIES ACT, 1937

## Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937

### PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers prosecut'd (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	27	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	113	31	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
<i>Total</i> ... ..	140	36	—	—

## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S. 2) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S. 7) :					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Total</i> ...	3	3	-	2	-



## REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1957

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith I submit the following report on the work carried out by the Public Health Department during the year ended the 31st December, 1957.

The work during the year shows a great increase as far as Meat and Food Inspection and the Storage of Petroleum Spirit is concerned.

### SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE

Houses inspected under the Housing Acts, 1925 to 1957	...	163
Total visits for housing purposes	... ..	774
Visits in connection with Council house applications	...	44
Factories	... ..	22
Food Premises	... ..	230
Slaughterhouses, farms, etc.	... ..	1,078
Dairies	... ..	19
Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936	... ..	52
Explosives	... ..	0
Infectious Disease Investigations	... ..	42
Water Supplies and Sampling	... ..	246
Ice Cream Sampling	... ..	8
Nuisances investigated	... ..	121
Camps inspected	... ..	5
Rodent Control	... ..	8
Drainage Work	... ..	185
Total number of visits for all purposes during the year	...	3,173

---

### HOUSING

**Improvement Grants.** The following table gives details of the work carried out during the year:

1. No. of preliminary enquiries made	... ..	80
2. No. of applications made	... ..	21
3. No. of applications approved by the Council	... ..	21

4. No. of houses where work was completed during the									
year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
5. Average amount per house	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£254
6. No. of applicants advised Council were unlikely to									
approve an application	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
7. Applications withdrawn	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

**Rent Act, 1957.** This Act, which came into force on 6th July, 1957, is intended primarily for landlord and tenant, and is not an Act under which the Local Authority can require repairs or improvements to property.

The Local Authority is, however, required to act as a third party if landlord and tenant cannot agree, and provision is laid down for the issue of Certificates of Disrepair if application is made, and the defects listed in part or whole are considered to be justified.

12 such applications were received and dealt with. By the end of the year 6 undertakings were received from landlords and action regarding the remainder was taken the following year.

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#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

It is the duty of every Local Authority to cause to be buried or cremated the body of any person who dies or is found dead in their area, in any case where it appears that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body are being made. It was not necessary to do so during the year.

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#### PET ANIMALS ACT, 1952

This Act came into operation on the 1st April, 1952. It is necessary for a person keeping a Pet Shop to be licensed by the Council. 2 licences were granted during the year.

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# PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1958

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				(5) <i>Agri- cultural</i>
		<i>Non-Agricultural</i>			
	(1) <i>Local Authority</i>	(2) <i>Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)</i>	(3) <i>All other (including Business Premises)</i>	(4) <i>Total of Columns (1), (2) and (3)</i>	
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District. (Notes 1 and 2) ... ..	45 <i>(approx.)</i>	12,000 <i>(approx.)</i>	580 <i>(approx.)</i>	12,625 <i>(approx.)</i>	635 <i>(approx.)</i>
2. Number of <i>properties inspected</i> as a result of:					
(a) Notification ... ..	10	213	17	240	1
(b) Survey under the Act ... ..	24	311	99	434	5
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose) ... ..	4	6	1	11	—
3. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections ... ..	142	3,662	145	3,949	6
4. Number of <i>properties</i> inspected (in Section 2) which were found to be <i>infested</i> by:					
(a) Rats { Major ... ..	—	—	1	1	—
{ Minor ... ..	22	118	9	149	1
(b) Mice { Major ... ..	—	2	—	2	—
{ Minor ... ..	—	38	5	43	—
5. Number of <i>infested properties</i> (in Section 4) treated by the Local Authority (figures should NOT exceed those given at Section 4) ... ..	22	158	15	195	1
6. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments ... ..	38	317	16	371	1
7. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act: ...					
(a) Treatment ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
9. Legal Proceedings ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
10. Number of “block” control schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—





### **FIREGUARDS ACT, 1953**

This Act came into operation on 1st October, 1953. The Act and the Orders and Regulations made thereunder make provision for the fitting of guards of approved type to all heating appliances.

All appliances manufactured after 1st October, 1953, must comply with the provisions of the Act and the provisions apply to all fires, etc., sold by retail after 1st October, 1954.

Visits have been paid to all known dealers in such appliances and the provisions have been explained to them.

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### **RODENT CONTROL**

In connection with the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, no charge was made for work carried out at private dwellings but the full cost of work at business premises was recovered.

Co-operation has been maintained with the officials of the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and their advice is always appreciated.

Annual Test Baiting was carried out in April-May in 31 sewerage systems. As a result it was necessary to carry out a maintenance treatment in May-June in 18 systems. The second maintenance treatment was carried out in November-December in 18 systems. The Council's Sewage Disposal Works were treated on 20 occasions and Refuse Tips on 15 occasions.

Details of the work carried out during the year can be seen from the table.

The work was carried out by the Council's Rodent Operator, assisted part-time by another workman in the Department.

The methods advocated by the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for the extermination of rats and mice were used, the bait bases being damp sausage rusk, bread mash, oatmeal and sugar meal, and the poisons Zinc Phosphide, arsenious oxide, red squill powder, Antu (alpha-naphthyl-thiourea) and Warfarin.

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## FOOD

## Slaughterhouses

Five applications for the renewal of licence were received, all of which were granted. A large bacon factory, built during the previous year, came into use in February, 1957.

During the year visits were made as follows:

Slaughterhouses	1,074
Occasional Slaughter	4
<i>Total</i>	<u>1,078</u>

## CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	<i>Cattle Excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number inspected ...	468	95	61	1,614	14,416
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	3	8	13	14
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	55	31	1	62	472
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	11.7	35.8	14.7	4.6	3.4
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	2	—	—	20
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	18	2	—	—	685
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	4.0	4.2	—	—	4.8
<i>Cysticercosis</i>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—

The total weight of carcasses and organs found to be diseased and voluntarily surrendered, was 14 tons, 7 cwts., 3 qrs., 12 lbs.

Diseased meat, etc. is collected by arrangement and converted into glues and fertilisers.

## Milk

The number of dairies and distributors registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, are as follows:

Dairies	...	...	17
Distributors	...		30
			—
			47
			—

19 visits of inspection were made during the year.

The following licences were issued to dealers under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954, and Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953, during the year:

Dealers' Licences	...	T.T.	...	16
		Pasteurised		17
		Sterilised	...	5
Supplementary Licences		T.T.	...	5
		Pasteurised		5
		Sterilised	...	2

## Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

89 premises were inspected during the year. Notices were served where it was found necessary to bring them up to standard. The principal improvements effected were as follows:

Water Heaters provided	...	...	...	13
Wash-hand basins provided		...	...	5
Sinks provided	...	...	...	4
Refrigerators provided	...	...	...	1
Sanitary conveniences provided	...	...		3
Internal water supply provided	...	...		3

## Other Foods

The following table indicates the approximate number of food trades in the area, although in many instances more than one trade is carried on in the same shop.



Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	11
Butcher Shops	...	...	...	...	26
Fishmongers and Fish Fryers	...	...	...	...	12
Ice Cream (a) Manufacturers	2	107	}	...	109
(b) Sale	...				
General Stores	...	...	...	...	134
Dairies (a) Distributors	28	17	}	...	45
(b) Dairies	...				
Restaurants and Cafes	...	...	...	...	21
Hotels, etc.	...	...	...	...	61
					419

The number of food premises registered under Section 16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955, are as follows:

The manufacture of Ice Cream for sale	...	2
The sale of Ice Cream	...	112
The manufacture of Preserved Food	...	46
		160

32 visits were made to food premises during the year, and a total weight of 4 cwts. 3 qr. 16 lb. of food condemned as unfit for human consumption.

During the year, 5 premises were registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale or manufacture for the purpose of sale of ice cream.

7 samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows:

#### PROVISIONAL GRADINGS.

##### *Time taken to reduce*

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Methylene Blue</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Result</i>
1	4½ hrs. or more	Satisfactory ...	7

Byelaws as to the handling and sale of food are in force in the Rural District. Minor contraventions were detected, but these were quickly rectified when the shopkeepers were notified.



## PETROLEUM SPIRIT LICENCES

The undermentioned figures apply to the period from the 1st April, 1957, to the 31st March, 1958.

### Petroleum Spirit

Number of licences renewed during the above period ...	71
Number of new licences issued during the above period	3
Number of licences transferred ... ..	1

During recent years the work in connection with Petroleum Spirit storage has increased considerably. Much time has been spent in preparing information for the guidance of applicants for licences, in supervising the installation of tanks, and testing same.

During the year, as a condition of licence, all holders of licences were requested to produce a certificate from a competent electrician that the electrical apparatus associated with petroleum spirit storage was in a satisfactory condition. The standard required was that laid down in Section 11 of the "Regulations for the Electrical Equipment of Buildings" issued by the Institute of Electrical Engineers.

In many cases installations failed to comply with the requirements and extensive works were required to the wiring and fittings. When such works were required the Licencees were advised to ensure that their installations were made to comply with the requirements as to electrical equipment which come into full operation on 1st January, 1960.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. T. FEDRICK,

*Chief Public Health Inspector.*

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Underhill (Plymouth) Ltd., Printers.

Works: Regent Street



